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The role of the United Nations in promoting a new global human order

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The role of the United Nations in promoting a new global human order

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 55/48 of 29 November 2000, 57/12 of 14 November 2002, 62/213 of 21 December 2007 and 65/120 of 10 December 2010,

Recalling also the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development and its outcome document, entitled "The future we want",[1]

Acknowledging that peace and security, development and human rights are the pillars of the United Nations system and the foundations for collective security and well-being and that development, peace and security and human rights are interlinked and mutually reinforcing,

Reaffirming that development is a central goal by itself and that sustainable development in its economic, social and environmental aspects constitutes a key element of the overarching framework of United Nations activities,

Recognizing that the well-being of people and the full development of their potential is pivotal to sustainable development, and convinced of the urgency of international cooperation towards that end,

Deeply concerned about persistent and considerable disparities between rich and poor, both within and among countries, and about the adverse implications of these disparities for the promotion of human development throughout the world,

[1] Resolution 66/288, annex.

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Taking account of the significance of inequality in the global development agenda and the importance of continued efforts to strive for inclusive and equitable development approaches to overcome poverty and inequality,

Taking note of the work of the United Nations system and other actors in taking better account of inequality,

Stressing the multidimensional nature of inequality and unequal access to social and economic opportunities and their complex interrelationship with efforts to eradicate poverty, and promote sustained, inclusive and equitable growth and sustainable development, and the full enjoyment of human rights, especially for those people living in situations of vulnerability,

Concerned by the prevalence of gender inequality in various forms worldwide, which is often expressed in poorer outcomes for women relative to men on many social development indicators,

Considering that inequality continues to pose major barriers to attaining the Millennium Development Goals and that efforts to achieve the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, often take inadequate account of the relationship and impact of inequality on economic and social development,

Reaffirming the need to achieve sustainable development by, inter alia, promoting sustained, inclusive and equitable economic growth, creating greater opportunities for all, reducing inequalities, fostering equitable social development and inclusion,[2] and promoting integrated and sustainable management of natural resources and ecosystems,

Recognizing the need to encourage coherent and complementary policies to reduce inequality, their mainstreaming into the activities of United Nations organizations and programmes, and more effective integration of the three dimensions of sustainable development,[3]

Recognizing also the action already under way by all Member States, the United Nations system and other international, regional and national forums and organizations and the progress made to implement the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[4]

2. *Underlines* the continued relevance of the outcomes of all major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic, social and related fields and the commitments set out therein, including the Millennium Development Goals, which have raised awareness and continue to generate real and important development gains, have played a vital role in shaping a broad development vision and constitute the overarching framework for the development activities of the United Nations, and strongly reiterates its determination to ensure the timely and full implementation of those outcomes and commitments;

3. *Recognizes* that the increased pace of globalization and growing interdependence have heightened the importance of international cooperation and

[2] Ibid., para. 4.
[3] See A/67/394, para. 60.
[4] A/67/394.

multilateralism in meeting global challenges and solving common problems, including those that have arisen from the uneven impact of globalization on development and human well-being;

4. *Emphasizes* the need to promote human well-being and the full realization of human potential;

5. *Reaffirms* that national ownership and leadership are indispensable in the development process and that there is no one-size-fits-all approach, and reiterates that each country has primary responsibility for its own economic and social development and that the role of national policies, domestic resources and development strategies cannot be overemphasized; domestic economies are now interwoven with the global economic system and therefore the effective use of trade and investment opportunities can help countries to fight poverty, and development efforts at the national level need to be supported by an enabling national and international environment that complements national actions and strategies;

6. *Also reaffirms* the commitment to sound policies, good governance at all levels and the rule of law, to mobilizing domestic resources, fostering international financial flows, assuring long-term investment in human capital and infrastructure, promoting international trade as an engine for economic growth and development and increasing international financial and technical cooperation for development, sustainable debt financing and external debt relief, and to enhancing the coherence and consistency of the international monetary, financial and trading systems;

7. *Recognizes* that inequality within and among countries is a concern for all countries regardless of their level of development and that it represents a growing challenge with multiple implications for the realization of economic and social potential and the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals;

8. *Also recognizes* the need to continue and intensify efforts to enhance the coherence and consistency of the international monetary, financial and trading systems and reiterates the importance of ensuring their openness, fairness and inclusiveness in order to complement national development efforts to ensure sustained, inclusive and equitable economic growth and the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals;

9. *Further recognizes* that attention must be focused on the particular needs of the people in developing countries and on the large and increasing economic and social inequality that exists, and further recognizes that disparities both within and among countries, including between developed and developing countries and inequality between the rich and the poor and between rural and urban populations, inter alia, remain persistent and significant and need to be addressed;

10. *Recognizes* that the eradication of poverty is one of the greatest global challenges facing the world today, particularly in Africa, in the least developed countries, and in some middle-income countries, and underlines the importance of accelerating sustainable, inclusive and equitable economic growth, including full, productive employment generation and decent work for all;

11. *Emphasizes* the importance of efforts to address all aspects and dimensions of inequality;

12. *Stresses* the critical need for the expansion of and access to education and training, and encourages programmes to promote universal access to secondary education and to expand access to quality higher education, which is relevant to the needs of the labour market, in accordance with each country's specific realities and development challenges;

13. *Invites* Member States to adopt a multisectoral approach and to work on determinants of health within sectors including, as appropriate, through the health in all policies approach, while taking into consideration the social, environmental and economic determinants of health, with a view to reducing health inequities and enabling sustainable development, and stresses the urgent need to act on social determinants for the final push towards the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals;

14. *Encourages* Member States, in collaboration with other stakeholders where applicable, to plan or pursue the transition of their health systems towards universal coverage, while continuing to invest in and strengthen health-delivery systems to increase and safeguard the range and quality of services and to adequately meet the health needs of the population;

15. *Calls upon* Member States to pursue ambitious efforts to address inequality;

16. *Recognizes* the efforts of many countries in addressing inequality, and acknowledges the need for strengthened international efforts to complement national efforts in this area;

17. *Encourages* Member States in their efforts to address inequality and in partnership with relevant stakeholders to consider, as appropriate, inter alia, programmes to promote the participation and empowerment of all members of society, implementing social protection floors or extending the scope of existing social protection programmes;

18. *Urges* Governments, with the cooperation of relevant entities, to develop systems of social protection that support labour-market participation and address and reduce inequality and social exclusion and to extend or broaden, as appropriate, their effectiveness and coverage, including for workers in the informal economy, invites the International Labour Organization to strengthen its social protection strategies and policies on extending social security coverage, and urges Governments, while taking account of national circumstances, to focus on the needs of those living in, or vulnerable to, poverty and give particular consideration to universal access to basic social security systems, including the implementation of social protection floors which can provide a systemic base for addressing poverty and vulnerability, and in this regard, takes note of the Social Protection Floors Recommendation, adopted by the General Conference of the International Labour Organization at its one hundred and first session on 14 June 2012;

19. *Encourages* greater consideration of the impact of social and economic inequality in development, including in the design and implementation of development strategies, and in this regard also encourages further analytical and empirical research, in particular by the relevant institutions of the United Nations system, as well as the regional commissions and other national and international organizations;

20. *Also encourages* giving appropriate consideration to the need to reduce inequality in the elaboration of the post-2015 development agenda;

21. *Recognizes* that regional, subregional and interregional cooperation can facilitate the exchange of knowledge and experience and promote the most effective use of resources aimed at achieving human development and reducing inequality;

22. *Requests* the President of the General Assembly to convene, within existing resources, and in consultation with all relevant stakeholders, an informal thematic debate to address the issue of inequality in 2013;

23. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly, at its sixty-ninth session, a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

24. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-ninth session the item entitled "The role of the United Nations in promoting a new global human order".